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tions are old, and its treatment of them reveals a lack of familiarity with modern theological thought.

Dr. Conley's book is a series of lectures given before the Bible Department of the Omaha Woman's Club. It is in many respects the opposite of Mr. Ruth's work, being an *apologia* for the commonly received views, not without an evident knowledge of critical opinions, which does not prevent their being disregarded. Six of the fourteen lectures are introductory to a study of the Bible; the others are occupied with expounding the relation of the Bible to various forms of human activity. The extensive field covered by the book precludes any detailed exposition in places where more of detail would be an improvement, and the brevity of treatment blurs the distinctions between ideas which may be closely related, but which are not identical, as is the case with the concepts denoted by the words "religion," "Christianity," and "the Bible." In a class where a competent leader could fill gaps and expand outlines, the book might serve as a suggestive textbook.

The stronger chapters of the book are the earlier ones. After one is told that the dominant biblical themes are "God, duty, judgment, mercy, brotherhood, death, future life, sin, salvation," it is disappointing to find that these dominant themes are set aside and the attention called to such matters as the ethics of the Bible, the Bible and woman, the educative value of Bible study, and so on. These are interesting and important topics, worthy of the suggestive treatment accorded them, but they are not the central ones. Probably serious differences of opinion in the mixed audience to which the lectures were delivered prevented any profitable treatment of the more vital themes. The topics treated would give opportunity for the introduction of these themes in the questions and discussions of a class.

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The Apostles of Our Lord. By J. G. GREENHOUGH. New York: A. C. Armstrong & Son. Pp. xii + 278.

The author gives such brief pictures of the Twelve as may be drawn in the light of the New Testament narrative; indicates the ways in which Jesus trained them, making competent and powerful spiritual teachers out of what is considered very unattractive and stubborn material; describes the later lives and work of the apostles after the ascension of our Lord, considering also the questions of apostolic succession, the position of Peter, the apostleship of Paul, and Barnabas the missionary. All discussion of

merely critical matters is carefully avoided, and the effort throughout is to make plain the religious significance of the lives of these men and their relation to the Master. The frame of mind of the author and the tone of the book can be most clearly indicated by a brief quotation (p. 222): "Up to this time we have been building our little structure on the impregnable rock of Holy Scripture, and studiously avoiding the untrustworthy sands of ecclesiastical tradition. On that firm ground let it be our purpose to tread now, and to leave untrodden the immense debatable region which attracts bolder minds and rarely repays them for their ventures."

Nothing strikingly new is presented, but the book puts into popular shape and presentable form a good deal that has hitherto been accessible only by more or less wading. It pretends to no independent critical value, but as a popular manual is interesting and instructive. One wishes at times that the author had a little more vividness of imagination; yet in that case he might have been run away with.

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